

THE
MONTHLY



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FIELD TRIPS FOR CHILDREN

The Golden Gate Audubon Society is planning this fall to have monthly field trips for children. All children are invited, but those eight years of age or younger must be accompanied by an adult. Parents are invited to come, if they wish, though with the understanding that these walks will be geared to childrens interests.

We intend to observe the country side as a whole, to examine plant and animal life, geological formations, and climatic differences which affect all that lives in an area.

These field trips will be on Saturday mornings once a month, and will start at 10 o'clock. The walk will last for two hours, and we plan to stop for a picnic lunch, which each child will bring for himself. After lunch there may be a talk, a game, or some other surprise arranged for the children, and the excursion will terminate about 1:30 p.m.

Each month we shall announce in the *Gull* the leader for the following month and the place where we expect to meet. Our first meeting will be at 10 a.m. on **Saturday, September 28**, at the Rotary Natural Science Center at Lake Merritt, Oakland. It will be led by Paul Covel.

The following month we shall meet on the San Francisco side of the Bay, thus alternating East and West Bay trips. There will also be a trip to Audubon Canyon Ranch. If your children are interested in coming, just let them come, or bring them. No registration is necessary—but their own lunch is.

—JANET NICKELSBURG, *Education Chairman*.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

A Report on Canyon Ranch will be made at the next meeting of the San Francisco at the First Unitarian Church, Franklin and Geary Streets. Golden Gate Audubon Society, scheduled for **Thursday, September 12** in The report will be in the form of a panel discussion with the following participants: Jack Hermann, architect and member of the Marin Audubon Society, who will speak on the subject of the land itself and what possibilities it offers; Janet Nickelsburg, nationally known teacher in the field of nature education and our own education chairman, who will tell us the kind of nature education center she would like to have at Canyon Ranch; Larry Jordon, attorney and Marin Society member, who will cover a va-

riety of legal points; and Myra Browne, in charge of Canyon Ranch fund raising this year, who will bring us up-to-date on where we stand, and will describe the fund-raising plans. Aileen Pierson will moderate the discussion. All five are directors of Audubon Canyon Ranch, Inc.

This is an especially appropriate time for this report: Dr. Joseph J. Shoman, director of the Nature Centers Division of National Audubon Society, has just submitted a 63-page "Survey and Educational Use Plan for Audubon Canyon Ranch" to the A.C.R. Board, following a study he made last spring at Mrs. Nickelsburg's request.

The meeting, which will start at 7:30 p.m., will be preceded by dinner at the church at 6 p.m. (\$1.50 per person). If you want to come for dinner, please let us hear from you a few days ahead of time. You may phone either Val DaCosta in San Francisco (WE 1-5257) or Margaret Peterson in Oakland (568-7534). Reservations are not necessary, but the cook will be glad to have them before buying the food.

FIELD TRIPS FOR SEPTEMBER

Saturday and Sunday, September 7 and 8, to Moss Landing and Monterey overnight. On Saturday take U. S. 101 to the Monterey Peninsula cut-off (Route 156) 9 miles north of Salinas. Turn west to Castroville, then north (right) on Route 1 for 3 miles. Meet at 9 a. m. near the bridge over Elkhorn Slough. Distance from the Bay Area is 110 miles. Driving time is 3 hours. This spot offers beach, ocean, lagoon, pond, marsh and open grassland habitat all in one package. At this time the migration of loon, grebe, albatross, flumer, shearwater, and petrel takes place. After lunch go to the Coast Guard pier in Monterey where we will assemble at 2 p.m. A tour will be made of the wharves, where may be seen: kittiwake, oyster-catcher, petrel and turnstone. A side trip to the mouth of the Carmel River for Baird's and possibly, pectoral sandpiper will be made at the close of the day.

On Sunday, at 9 a.m. depart from Sam's Wharf on a party boat for a trip off Monterey coast. Allow one-half hour for parking car at the Municipal Parking Lot, traveling to Sam's Wharf, and boarding boat. Return will be at 3 p.m. Be sure to wear warm clothing, bring lunch and seasick pills. This trip will be at the time of heavy migration of ocean birds that travel on a route fairly close to the Monterey area. Black-footed albatross, sooty and pink-footed shearwater, fork-tailed, black and ashy petrel were present last year. Fare: \$4.50 per person. Make checks payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. and send to Harold G. Peterson, 3548 65th Ave., Oakland, Calif. 94605. Names will be placed on the passenger list in the order received. Space is limited. Co-leaders, Richard Stallcup LO 9-3185 and Guy McCaskie, P.O. Box 241, Tahoe City, Calif.

Saturday, September 14, to Bay Farm Island and Alameda. This date is probably at the peak of the fall migration of shorebirds. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at entrance to Lincoln Park, High Street and Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda. Take No. 51 bus from Berkeley or Oakland, Bus D from San Francisco. A tour will be made of the spots most likely to produce the best birding, starting with Lincoln Park and going from there to East Shore Drive,

Mecartney Drive and the west shore. Bring binoculars, telescopes, interested friends, and lunch if you plan to stay through the period of maximum movement of birds. High water at Golden Gate occurs at 10:49 a.m. Leader, Elsie Roemer, LA 2-0941.

Wednesday, September 18, to Redwood Regional Park in Oakland. Meet at 9 a.m. at the park gate on Skyline Blvd. near Totterdell St. If without private transportation, be at the Altenheim, 1720 MacArthur Blvd., between 8 and 8:30, where transportation will be provided. From San Francisco Terminal take the AC Transit bus "N" at 7:28 a. m. In the East Bay, AC Transit buses 15, 34, and 57 pass the Altenheim. Last year on October 9 we found 40 species of flowers in bloom and 23 species of birds, but we were too late to see the glorious fall coloring furnished by the poison oak. This year (three weeks earlier) we may be in time.—Marshall Jencks, Leader, 534-9353.

Saturday, October 5, boat trip off Monterey. Boat will leave Sam's Wharf at 9 a. m. and return at 3 p.m. Park cars at Fisherman's Wharf Municipal Parking Lot. Do not park in metered zones. Allow one-half hour to park car, walk to Sam's Wharf and board boat. Wear warm clothing, bring lunch and seasick pills. This trip will be at the time of heavy migration of ocean birds that travel on a route fairly close to the coast of Monterey. Black-footed albatross, pink-footed, New Zealand and sooty shearwater, black and ashly petrel, pomarine and parasitic jaeger, and skua have been seen on previous trips. A group of expert birders from Los Angeles, headed by Mr Russell E Wilson, will join us. A social get-together with the Los Angeles birders at Bamboo Garden, 2030 Fremont Ext. Monterey is planned for Saturday evening. Fare \$4.50 per person. Make checks payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society Inc. and send to Harold G. Peterson, 3548 65th Ave., Oakland, Calif. 94605. Leaders to be announced.

—HAROLD G. PETERSON, *Field Trips Chairman*.

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS, 1963-64

The five Audubon Wildlife Films for the coming season will be shown at 8 p.m. in the Berkeley High School Little Theater, Allston Way and Grove Street, on the following dates:

Monday, October 7—"The Right to Live" by Chester P. Lyons.

Wednesday, November 13—"The Living Wilderness" by Walter H. Berlet.

Wednesday, January 22—"Alberta Outdoors" by Edgar T. Jones.

Wednesday, February 26—"Our Changing Heritage" by Emerson Scott.

Tuesday, March 31—"Awake to Nature" by Alfred G. Etter.

Season tickets for this series are still available. Orders should be sent as soon as possible to Audubon Wildlife Films, P.O. Box 103, Berkeley 1, Calif. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and your check payable to the Golden Gate Audubon Society in the amount of \$4.50 for each season ticket.

—FRANCES ELLEN FALLGATTER, *Wildlife Film Chairman*.

DUES INCREASED

Beginning August 1 for new members, and August 31 for renewals, dues in the National Audubon Society were increased to \$8.50 for regular memberships. A family membership at \$12.50 was substituted for the husband and wife category. Growing demands on the Society and more responsibilities have, quite naturally, resulted in larger expenses and increasing deficits. This raise in dues, long overdue really, will go a long way toward closing the gap between income and outgo. On our members' dues, you will be pleased to learn, Golden Gate will receive a dollar of this increase for the regular membership.

ANYONE LOOKING FOR WORK?

It's wonderful to have such a large membership, but large membership does have this one disadvantage—our officers and committee chairmen can't possibly get to know all the members and sometimes, for want of a little encouragement, members aren't as active as they would like to be. The little questionnaire form that has been inserted in the GULL this month is an attempt to correct this situation. Won't you please fill out and return the form to us promptly? We'd like to know your special interests and the kind of work you'd like to be doing for the Society. Many, many thanks for the help.

—ERLINE HEVEL, *President*.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our Society: from Berkeley, Mrs. Blanche Clear, Miss Barbara J. Emmons, Miss Grace M. Lambert; from Davis, Miss Frances Carter; from Lafayette, Mr. and Mrs. George Monheit; from Oakland, Mr. Robert W. L. Potts; from Orinda, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman J. Mann; from San Francisco, Mr. Wakefield Baker, Jr., Mr. Eugene D. Bennett, Mr. Theodore Brown, Miss Leni Cahn, Mr. Clifford Daniels, Jr., Mrs. Charles DeKay, Miss Genevieve Wild; from Walnut Creek, Mr. Mike Moore.

—VALERIA G. DaCOSTA, *Membership Chairman*.

NORTHERN SIERRA NEVADA TRIP, JUNE 15-16

Two days of good weather favored the fifty members of the Golden Gate Audubon and their guests from the Mount Diablo Society who traveled to the Beth Snyder cabin at Clark Station in the Sierra Nevada for a field trip June 15 and 16. The spring had been cold and stormy in the northern mountains with rain, hail, sleet, and snow, so the good days were doubly appreciated.

Saturday, June 15, spent in the mountains at elevations over 6,000 feet, included such sightings as calliope hummingbirds, pileated and black-backed three-toed woodpeckers, three empidonax flycatchers, Traill's, Hammond's and dusky, Swainson's and hermit thrush, ruby-crowned and golden-crowned kinglets (the latter called down within 15 feet of the group by Guy McCaskie and Paul DeBenedictis), Nashville, yellow, Audubon's, hermit, and MacGillivray's warblers, evening and pine grosbeaks, green-tailed towhee, and others typical of this area. Many nests were also observed: white-headed woodpecker, Steller's jay, mountain chickadee, warbling vireo, Oregon junco.

On Sunday, June 16, the group went to the Scolari Ranch in the marsh area of the Sierra Valley, where many wading birds, ducks, and shorebirds nest. This area also includes sage and open country habitat, where golden eagle, common nighthawk, sage thrasher, and Brewer's, vesper and savannah sparrows were observed. A few members of the group observed Clark's nutcracker, and the nest and adults of short-eared owl, as well as great horned and spotted owls.

—BETH SNYDER and GUY McCASKIE, *Co-leaders*. B. SNYDER, *Hist.*

CONGRESSIONAL REPORT

The Tule-Klamath Refuge bill, S. 793, passed the Senate without a dissenting voice.

A bill to exploit wildlife by removing the import tax on wild birds and animals shipped into the United States for commercial exhibit purposes, H.R. 1839, was quietly passed out of the House Ways and Means Committee without hearings early this year, and passed the House. The National Audubon Society had objected to this bill in the last Congress and asked the House Committee for hearings which were not granted. The Senate Finance Committee did grant a hearing, held July 23. Appearing in support of the measure were Congressman Charles M. Teague (Calif.), sponsor of H.R. 1839; four animal importers—businessmen—and two municipal zoo-keepers, who no doubt were persuaded to help by their friends in the import business. Animals imported by public zoos are exempt from the import tax. Principal Senate backer of the bill is Senator Thomas H. Kuchel (Calif.).

National Audubon Society investigations disclosed that one who wants the bill very badly is a California importer who does a profitable business supplying animals to the motion picture industry for "jungle adventure" films. Representatives of the National Audubon Society, Animal Welfare Institute, Virginia Federation of Humane Societies, State Biological Survey of Kansas, Defenders of Wildlife, and Wildlife Management Institute spoke against the bill. The National Wildlife Federation filed an opposition statement. Senator Harry F. Byrd (Va.) is chairman of the Finance Committee.

—*Audubon Leader's Conservation Guide.*

IN MEMORIAM

A gift of remembrance was made to the Canyon Ranch Fund:

In Memory of:

Hilda Grinnell

Gift of:

Mrs. Leota Bigelow

—DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman.*

OBITUARY—We regret to report the death of Miss Lois Ruffner on August 9 in Oakland. Miss Ruffner had been a member of Golden Gate Audubon Society for many years.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Horace Sharp would like to thank the gentleman who gave him the roll of color film at Canyon Ranch. If he reads this, Mr. Sharp would appreciate it if he would send his name and address (which Mr. Sharp lost) to 15 W. Cavour St., Daly City.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917

A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

President	.....Miss Erline Hevel	1801 California St., San Francisco	PR 5-6498
Vice President	.....Miss Bertha Underhill	35 Tamalpais Rd., Berkeley	848-0131
Vice PresidentHorace H. Jeter	2485 Chestnut, Apt. 205, San Francisco	EX 7-5396
TreasurerMrs. Alice D. Radcliffe	2101 Bay St., San Francisco	JO 7-5856
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DirectorMiss Aileen Pierson	810 Gonzalez Dr., San Francisco	JU7-4163
DirectorA. W. Larson	44 Rincon Road, Berkeley 7	LA5-9149
Director	.....Crawford H. Thomas	1739 Vallejo St., San Francisco	OR 3-6709
Editor	.....Mrs. Violet Homem	6911 Armour Dr., Oakland 11	655-8886
Assistant Editor	.....Mrs. Hermine Van Gelder	2606 Stuart, Berkeley 5	848-6417
Field Trips Chairman	.....Harold G. Peterson	3548 65th Avenue, Oakland 5	LO 8-7534
Membership Chairman	.....Mrs. Valeria DaCosta	2340 Francisco St., Apt. 102, San Francisco 23	WE 1-5257
Program Chairman	.....Robert C. DaCosta	2340 Francisco St., Apt. 102, San Francisco 23	WE 1-5257
Education Chairman	.....Mrs. Janet Nickelsburg	2585 Union, San Francisco 23	WA 1-9449
Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman	.....Dr. Albert Boles	B54 Longridge Road, Oakland 10	GL 1-6267
Wildlife Film Chairman	.....Mrs. Frances Ellen Fallgatter,	406 El Cerrito, Piedmont 11	OL 5-9582
Conservation Chairman	.....Paul F. Covel	2860 Delaware St., Oakland 2	KE 6-4120

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Editor. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, \$8.50 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately \$1.50 per year.

Visit the Conservation Center of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 4, California TH 8-4042

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